

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/684,987

Examiner

VIJAY SHANKAR

Applicant(s)

WEINBRENNER, RICHARD L.

Art Unit

2673

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10-14-2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 14 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 10-14-03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

VIJAY SHANKAR  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 2673

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jeffrey Calfa on 12-8-04.

The application has been amended as follows:

1) Claim 10 should be renumbered as " Claim 9".

2) Claim 10, line 1; after "display of" " claim 9 " should be "claim 8".

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1-9 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art fails to teach an illuminated animated display, comprising: a housing; a light source within the housing; a platen at least partially clear in front of the light source within the housing; the platen having a projection face opposite the light source, the projection face having a transparency film with interleaved images engaged; a flexible mask having opaque and transparent sections, the flexible mask held in vicinity of the platen

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over the film; two independently operable motors, one engaged one side of the flexible mask one engaged on an opposite side of the flexible mask, the motors horizontally aligning the transparent sections on the mask over image sections of the film on the platen to allow light from the light source to project the images; the two motors for vertically repositioning the mask to allow changing of projection images; and two light sensors, one engaged to one side of the mask and one engaged to an opposite side of the mask, the light sensors for providing alignment feedback information for automatic control of the two motors as mentioned in Claim 1 and the light sensors having a light transmitting element and the sensors also for measuring light reflected back from opaque portions of the mask as mentioned in Claim 5.

Also, an illuminated animated display, comprising: a housing; a light source within the housing; a lenticular lens in front of the light source with the housing; the lenticular lens having a projection face opposite the light source, the lenticular lens having individual lenticule portions for projecting light in a line; an image transparency having translucent images in front of the lenticular lens; a flexible mask held in vicinity of the lenticular lens over the image transparency, the mask having opaque and transparent areas; and a positioner for aligning the transparent areas of the mask over the translucent images on the image transparency to allow light from the light source to project the translucent images as mentioned in Claim 8.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

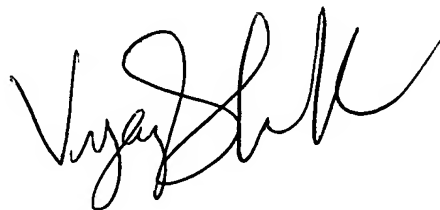
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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VIJAY SHANKAR whose telephone number is 703-305-4763. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:00 am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, BIPIN SHALWALA can be reached on 703-305-4938. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



VIJAY SHANKAR  
Primary Examiner  
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VS